

## Message Text

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12

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-10 DPW-01 /064 W

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R 091123Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7909

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PK, IN

SUBJ: INDO-PAK PRE-WAR DETAINEES

REF: A. NEW DELHI 10989

B. NEW DELHI 15838

C. ISLAMABAD 7902

1. ABOUT 150 PAKISTANIS DETAINED IN INDIA SINCE BEFORE  
1971 WAR WILL BE EXCHANGED AT WAGAH/ATARI BORDER DECEMBER  
9 FOR 36 INDIAN DETAINEES, GOP ANNOUNCED TO PRESS DECEMBER  
7. MFA DIRECTOR FOR INDIA, ZAFAR HILALY, WHO WILL LOOK  
AFTER PAK SIDE OF EXCHANGE AT WAGAH, LAST WEEK TOLD EMBOFF  
THAT THIS WILL COMPLETE EXCHANGE OF PRE-WAR DETAINEES AS  
NO KNOWN PAK OR INDIAN PRISONERS INTERNED BEFORE WAL WILL  
REMAIN IN OTHER COUNTRY'S JAIL.

2. ACCORDING TO PRESS, UNDER AGREEMENT CONCLUDED APRIL  
9, 448 PAKS HAD BEEN REPATRIATED FROM INDIA AND 267 INDIANS  
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RETURNED HOME BEFORE FINAL EXCHANGE. THUS, AFTER DECEMBER

9. NUMBERS EXCHANGED SHOULD TOTAL ABOUT 600 PAKS, 300 INDIANS. MOST OF PRISONERS HELD BY BOTH SIDES WERE HELD UNDER CRIMINAL CHARGES, SUCH AS SMUGGLING, DACOITY AND EXPIONAGE, ACCOUNTS SAY, BUT SOME PAK DETAINEES WERE EMPLOYEES OF GOP, BANKS OR TEA ESTATES WHO LEFT EAST BENGAL BECAUSE OF RIOTS AND WERE HELD FOR ILLEGAL ENTRY.

3. POST-WAR DETAINEES, HILALY REMARKED TO EMBOFF, REMAIN TO BE EXCHANGED BUT BOTH SIDES ARE WORKING ON PROBLEM. HOWEVER, NO DATE HAS BEEN SET FOR REPATRIATION. HILALY CLAIMED THAT HE HAD NO IDEA OF MANY INDIVIDUALS ARE INVOLVED ON EITHER SIDE AS NO LISTS HAVE BEEN PREPARED TO DATE.

4. COMMENT: A NUMBER OF FACTS AND FIGURES REPORTED HERE DO NOT JIBE WITH THOSE REPORTED REFS A AND B: IE.E., FIGURE OF ABOUT 380 INDIANS HELD BY PAKS (REF A, PARAS 2 AND 3) IS ABOUT 80 OVER WHAT GOP SAYS IS TOTAL TO BE REPATRIATED; 91 DETAINEES WHOM MEA DEPUTY SEC DOSHI SAID (REF B, PARA 2) PAKS HAD TRACED ARE MANY MORE THAN 36 TO BE TURNED OVER DECEMBER 9, MFA TELLS US THERE ARE NO LISTS OF POST WAR REFUGEES, DOSHI STATED THAT THERE ARE (REF B, PARA 2). OFFICER IN SWISS EMBASSY INDIA INTERESTS SECTION WHO WORKS WITH DETAINEE EXCHANGE HERE HAD EARLIER RECOUNTED TO EMBOFF DIFFICULTIES IN TRACING REPORTED PRISONERS AS THIS NECESSITATED COORDINATION BETWEEN THEM, MFA, INTERIRO MINISTRY AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS. WE ASSUME THAT THESE DIFFICULTIES HELP ACCOUNT FOR DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN PAKISTANI AND INDIAN FIGURES. AS SWISS SOMETIMES BETTER INFORMED ON SUBJECT THATN MFA OFFICIALS, WE WILL ASK ON NEXT MEETING WITH THEM, WHERE THINGS STAND ON POST-WAR DETAINEES.

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